"International Herbal Trade Fair and Ayurveda Expo 2002" to be conducted alongwith World Ayurveda Congress from 30th October to 5th November, 2002 at Kochi, Kerala.

Export of potatoes

†2104. SHRIMATI KUM KUM RAI: Will the Minister of COMMERCE AND INDUSTRY be pleased to state:

(a) the quantum of potato exported during the last three years;

(b) whether Government have any plan to construct large number of cold storages and to give other incentives to the potato growing farmers for encouraging potato export in view of its increasing production; and

(c) if so, the details thereof?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF COMMERCE AND INDUSTRY (SHRI RAJIV PRATAP RUDI):(a) The quantities of potatoes exported during the last three years are as under:

Period	Quantities in MTs
1999-2000	28200
2000-01	22637
2001-02 (Apr.-Feb.)	7722

(Source: APEDA)

(b) and (c) Government has approved setting up four Agri Export Zones (AEZs) exclusively for potatoes in the States of Punjab, Uttar Pradesh, West Bengal and Madhya Pradesh. Some of the incentives available under AEZ Scheme are Duty free fuel for generation of powers, exemption of sales tax and other taxes/duties, if any on all inputs used for export of fresh and processed products from AEZ, assistance for development of infrastructure, product quality improvement, Pre and Post Harvest Training/extension services and Market Development etc.

†Original notice of the question was received in Hindi.